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CHD, Basketball Legend John Stockton and Censored Doctors Sue Washington Medical Commission

Children's Health Defense, basketball hall-of-famer John Stockton and physicians targeted by the Washington Medical Commission on March 7 sued the commission for allegedly violating doctors' First Amendment right to criticize the "mainstream COVID narrative" and denying the public the right to hear such criticism.

By Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D.

27

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION of Human Rights
Freedom of Speech
CENSORED

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Basketball legend John Stockton and Children's Health Defense (CHD) are among the plaintiffs suing the Washington Medical Commission, alleging it violated doctors' First Amendment right to criticize the "mainstream COVID narrative" and denied the public the right to hear such criticism.

Stockton v. Ferguson, filed March 7 in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, seeks "to protect the right of physicians to speak, and the right of the public to hear their message."

Stockton, a basketball hall-of-famer and Olympic gold medalist, also co-hosts the "Voices for Medical Freedom Podcast." According to the lawsuit, Stockton joined the lawsuit to advocate in favor of the public's right to access "soapbox speech."

"There's this broader silencing effect where people aren't even actually being directly censored," Stockton told The Defender. "Their speech is just being chilled. So, they're not expressing what they believe in, what they have to say for fear of these sorts of repercussions. I look at it as one of these things where you just can't stay silent."

Attorney Rick Jaffe, who was counsel in a lawsuit that successfully challenged California's medical misinformation law, said Stockton's placement as the lawsuit's lead plaintiff symbolizes the importance of protecting the public's right to listen.

"This is my fifth lawsuit against medical boards," Jaffe said. "The other suits had a physician as the lead plaintiff." While those lawsuits "talked about the right to receive information," Jaffe said he "wanted to strongly and symbolically make the point that it is ultimately about the right of people to have access to dissenting professional voices."

Kim Mack Rosenberg, CHD general counsel, said the commission's censorship "hurts not only those doctors and others who have valuable information to share but also the public, who has a right to receive and evaluate a variety of viewpoints and opinions."

Rosenberg told The Defender "Government censorship at this level violates not only protected free speech rights but reeks of a 'nanny state,' where the government dictates what it believes is best for its citizens."

CHD, in addition to being a plaintiff, is financially supporting the lawsuit. Other plaintiffs include Dr. Richard Eggleston, Dr. Thomas T. Siler, Dr. Daniel Moynihan and approximately 60 yet-unnamed doctors facing disciplinary proceedings by the state's medical commission.

The commission subjected Siler and Eggleston to disciplinary proceedings after they published articles critical of the mainstream COVID-19 narrative. Moynihan alleges the commission's actions "chill his willingness" to speak publicly.

Washington Attorney General Robert "Bob" Ferguson and Kyle S. Karinen, executive director of the Washington Medical Commission, are named as defendants.

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Right to speak 'meaningless if nobody has the right to hear'

According to the lawsuit, the Washington Medical Commission "investigated, prosecuted and/or sanctioned approximately 60 physicians" since September 2021 for their "soapbox speech," referring to "written or verbal communications to the public."

"Going back 70 years, every judge and Supreme Court justice who has written on professional soapbox speech has stated that it is fully protected by the First Amendment and/or said that it cannot be the subject of government regulation or restriction," the lawsuit states.

According to the lawsuit, a July 21, 2021, Federation of State Medical Boards press release prompted the medical commission's actions against doctors.

The press release stated: "Physicians who generate and spread COVID-19 vaccine misinformation or disinformation are risking disciplinary action by state medical boards, including the suspension or revocation of their medical license."

Due to their "specialized knowledge and training," physicians "possess a high degree of public trust" and "have an ethical and professional responsibility" to share factual, "scientifically grounded and consensus-driven" information, the federation said.

"Spreading inaccurate COVID-19 vaccine information contradicts that responsibility, threatens to further erode public trust in the medical profession and puts all patients at risk," the federation added.

Stockton seeks to protect the public's right to access soapbox speech. According to the complaint, the "actions of the Defendants directly impinge on that right."

Stockton told The Defender:

> "Not all of us have gone to medical school for eight or 10 or 12 years ... Most of us have to get our information from these brilliant people who have done that type of thing. I ... not only hope that they're willing to share the information, but it's my right to hear it.
>
> "We have a right to hear that and not have that hidden from us because a government or an institution thinks we don't deserve to hear it."

Jaffe praised Stockton's stance. "For many Americans, John symbolizes our core values of hard work, intensely focusing on the task at hand and excelling without a lot of fanfare. I can think of no better Washingtonian to speak for and champion the people of Washington."

"The Wuhan Cover-Up" by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
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Medical censorship affects the doctor-patient relationship

The doctor-patient relationship is harmed by state medical boards' interventions against medical speech, plaintiffs said.

"If free speech is suppressed, the practice of medicine will be changed drastically for the worse," Siler said.

He told The Defender:

> "Back in my career, there were always disagreements about diseases and treatments which were discussed and debated from the literature and people often came to different conclusions. Patients learned these differences and sought the treatment they thought best. This is a healthy medical environment.
>
> "Now it feels like Big Pharma/Government are colluding to squash dissent and debate. Why can't I and others who have written similar things have a public debate based on the literature and let the public decide what to believe?"

Eggleston said, "Physicians are placed in a no-win situation if they are prevented from giving information to patients to make a truly informed decision on medical treatment. They may be subjected to censure, fines or loss of license to practice. The real loser is the patient."

"Patients and families of patients have been deprived of alternative answers outside the 'narrative' of the government and media," Eggleston said. When such speech is "blocked by government 'guidelines' — which are effectively mandates — and media suppression of discussion, then truth will be covered up."

Attorney Todd Richardson, who is also representing the plaintiffs in Stockton v. Ferguson, agreed.

"When doctors are muzzled and unable to inform their patients of the facts, then patients cannot give true informed consent for any treatment or procedure," Richardson said. "And if a patient cannot consent, then has he not lost his autonomy and self-agency, that sets him apart from the animals at the vet clinic?"

RFK Jr. and Brian Hooker's *New* Book: "Vax-Unvax"
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Doctors' speech 'chilled' by threat of disciplinary action

Eggleston, a retired ophthalmologist who is facing an administrative proceeding, has previously sued the Washington Medical Commission.

In 2021, Eggleston launched a monthly column for the Lewiston Tribune, which largely focused on COVID-19 and the government's pandemic measures. In August 2022, the commission charged him with "professional misconduct," "misrepresentation or fraud" and "interference with an investigation or disciplinary proceeding."

In May 2023, a Washington appellate court stayed the commission's hearing against Eggleston. However, the appellate court subsequently lifted the stay and sent the case back to the District Court for further review.

In the meantime, Eggleston said he remains "prohibited from ... writing in the local newspaper's editorial page an 'opinion' about treatments that are effective."

"The rights of physicians and patients to give and obtain truthful information is in great peril if actions like those of the Washington Medical Commission are allowed to stand," Eggleston said. "This will be indicative of what society can expect in all aspects of life."

Like Eggleston, Siler also is a retired physician who was board-certified in internal medicine. According to the lawsuit, the medical commission's action against him is "based on several posts ... in which he challenged aspects of the approved government COVID narrative."

The commission launched an investigation in 2021, and on Oct. 23, 2023, charged Siler with professional misconduct and misrepresentation or fraud, claiming that some of the statements he posted demonstrated a "reckless disregard of the truth that promulgated misinformation regarding the SARS-CoV-2 virus and treatments for the virus."

Siler said the investigation chilled his speech, as he "refrained from writing anything further while awaiting the investigation."

Jaffe said that aside from protecting the right to listen, Stockton v. Ferguson also seeks "to stop the administrative cases against Drs. Eggleston and Siler." This would then apply to all of the commission's other administrative cases involving medical speech.

Jaffe added that he believes the case will eventually reach the U.S. Supreme Court.

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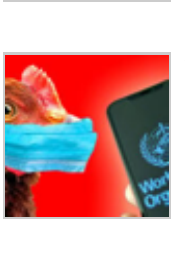
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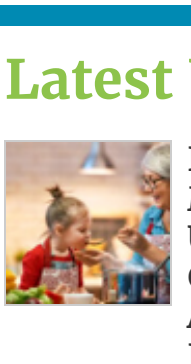
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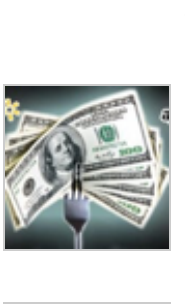
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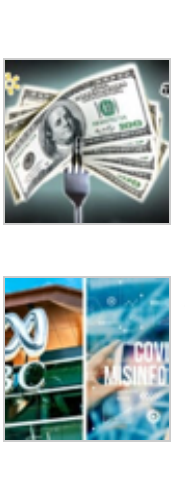
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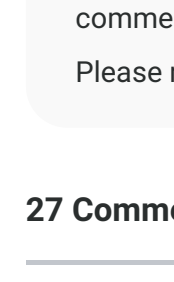

Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D.

Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D., based in Athens, Greece, is a senior reporter for The Defender and part of the rotation of hosts for CHD.TV's "Good Morning CHD."

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27 Comments

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Best Newest Oldest

steelj
a month ago

Are they just hoping to stop the censorship, or asking for damages to be paid? These institutions need to pay a heavy financial price. A simple cease and desist is not nearly enough to discourage them in the future.

25 0 Reply

lakewoodsteve → steelj
a month ago

If damages are not paid the censorship continues! It's why YOU have to pay when you get a ticket or miss an IRS or tax payment! I hope that helps you!

5 0 Reply

Christopher Chapman
a month ago

oh, yes! These are the lawsuits we need to see!

20 0 Reply

THOB
a month ago

It is frightening what 'they' have done and what 'they' wish to continue doing to freedom of thought and the right to put that forward to others for their consideration. Medicine's/pHARMa's dictatorial/censorship of what they deem 'the narrative' surely can not be allowed to continue unchallenged by any thinking person.

13 0 Reply

tamarque
a month ago

And please come to NY where the censorship is heavy. People are so propagandized that conversation is thwarted. The pubic is divided, as elsewhere, but doctors have their lips zipped shut tight.

12 0 Reply

r2bzjudge
a month ago

...plaintiffs suing the Washington Medical Commission, alleging it violated doctors' First Amendment right to criticize the "mainstream COVID narrative"

Especially when the criticizing doctors are correct. The "safe and effective" narrative was a lie. State medical boards are protecting the lie, which is endangering patient's health or life.

12 0 Reply

Mel R
a month ago

John Stockton has brought the issue of lockdowns and vaccine mandates to the public to a greater degree than any other internationally known athlete.
Stockton from Spokane, WA and played his entire pro basketball career with the Utah Jazz holds the NBA all-time record in assists and steals - no active player is even close. Magic Johnson was the assists leader for a few seasons but retired early due to the HIV-AIDS scam.

11 0 Reply

irishtap → Mel R
a month ago

I don't think Mr. Stockton's NBA credentials are all that relevant.

1 4 Reply

Drummer
a month ago edited

'The greatest crime against humanity' perpetrated by the U.S. government and Big Pharma

Everyone should view the video of the following presentation by Dr. Naomi Wolf to Hillsdale College at this time last year - 3/7/23

FULL SPEECH: What's in the Pfizer Documents? | Naomi Wolf At Hillsdale College
https://seed305.bitchute.co...

Attorney Aaron Siri of Siri | Glimstad who is the primary attorney for Del Bigtree's "The Highwire" and Del's "Informed Consent Action Network" (ICAN) and **who also pursues lawsuits for Robert F. Kennedy's Children's Health Defense, initiated a FOIA lawsuit against the FDA to release the internal documents containing Pfizer's clinical trial data and analysis for its Covid-19 injection product.** This clinical trial data is scientific data and the independent analysis of it by professionals is a scientific analysis. "...Pfizer submitted these documents to the FDA for use in evaluating the safety and effectiveness of their COVID injectables."
The FDA and Pfizer asked the court to seal/hide these documents for the next 75 years, until most of us are dead. The court refused and ordered them released in batches of 55,000 pages, over 8 months. Analyzing these 451,000 pages is a massive undertaking. **Dr. Naomi Wolf was able to get what eventually amounted to 3,500 experts, around the globe, to volunteer to analyze these documents and to collectively summarize their findings.** According to Wolf, the professionals who did (and I believe are still performing) this analysis consist of "...physicians, RNs, biostatisticians, medical fraud investigators, lab clinicians, research scientists, cardiologists, pathologists, anesthesiologists, some of the most distinguished scientists and medical people imaginable."
FULL SPEECH: What's in the Pfizer Documents? | Naomi Wolf At Hillsdale College 3/7/23
https://seed305.bitchute.co...

9 0 Reply

irishtap
a month ago

This entirely stems from the far reaches of the pharmaceutical industry. They've captured every federal and state regulatory agency and are using their enormous resources to cover up their criminality. They have taken to extreme offensive tactics to get ahead of the consequences that await them. Make no mistake: these people ARE CRIMINALS. Kennedy 24.

8 0 Reply

QuentonQuale → irishtap
a month ago

All directed by the DoD

0 0 Reply

Kim from Brooklyn
a month ago

There is and was always the obvious

Keep us quiet at any expense.

Fear for starters. There are those that look at fear and face it head on and there are those that cower at first site.

Since by now most realize which category they fall into we must face the reality and keep moving. Never stop. Because they won't.

7 0 Reply

GarySummers
a month ago

" Dr. David Cartland—The Honest doctor who refuses to be Silenced"

Even though Cartland had volunteered his upper arm for not one but two injections, he was immediately branded an anti-vaxxer. Analysing the Yellow Card data and data from the MHRA, he became even more certain that the "Covid injections were causing a massive increase in serious adverse reactions"; however, once again, he was branded an alarmist and chastised by his own profession. "Suffering with vaccine injuries himself, how does he cope with the deluge of information regarding the lack of safety data and the secrecy over the vaccine ingredients?"
https://www.ukcolumn.org/vi...

6 0 Reply

brbg
a month ago

It's already been proven that the misinformation/disinformation has come from the government and media, not those who have been silenced.

6 0 Reply

Roger Fraser, Kalispell MT
a month ago

The damage these State Medical Boards have done to the reputation of the healthcare industry in this country cannot be overstated. The disastrous consequences of accepting the government's recommendations concerning vaccination for and treatment of Covid, combined with their reckless attacks on dissenting voices and the obviously criminal behaviour of senior government officials such as Anthony Fauci, cast a long, dark shadow over all of American medicine. The wise and prudent among us, are now left in serious jeopardy, never knowing if the information we need to make life and death medical decisions is fatally tainted. Regardless of what happens in the short term, this will remain the reality for the foreseeable future. It will take decades at a minimum, before the trust that has been lost can be restored. In the meanwhile, every trip to a medical professional is now cause for serious concern. I've seen more than a few people receive treatment that was not successful and end up dead, and now we're left with the realistic concern that they died in the name of financial gain, incentivized by, who else, the federal government of the United States of America! I wish these fine people the best as they challenge these tyrants in court, but the honest truth is people will have to go to jail before trust can be restored. It remains to be seen if investigators and prosecutors in this country are up to the task, but in March of 2024, it is hard to be optimistic. R Fraser, Kalispell MT

6 0 Reply

QuentonQuale → Roger Fraser, Kalispell MT
a month ago

There is no recapturing of trust. What we witnessed is the lifting of the curtain. The medical industry is hopelessly broken. Has been for a long time. Completely captured by pharma and the medical boards. They want customers for life and a no competition from anyone who would stop the money flow. Real healing won't ever come from the medical industry. Be grateful you are now aware of their true face and can avoid them and live longer.

0 0 Reply

Voyt Regnal
a month ago

Today doctors are slaves of appointed medical bureaucrats. No longer they represent 'free' profession. Imagine, they used to be just doctors..some good, some bad, but without any yokes over their necks.

6 0 Reply

T_Hobbs
a month ago

Almost 2 years into the plandemic I was exposed to Delta by being forced to sit in a military pharmacy surrounded by masked, jabbed people, waiting for a rx. 6 days later my husband & I exhibited symptoms & self-quarantined, called our family PCP for early treatment. We were refused "oh, we don't do that". I KNEW there were early treatments because of research I'd been doing for months, but there was not a doctor I could find in this state who would prescribe for us until it was too late. We got through it, regardless, but I had to send him to the hospital for fluids and he got pulled into the deadly hospital homicide protocol. Had we had early treatment, he'd be alive today.

5 0 Reply

Gary Brown
a month ago

MARCH 12, 2024 65 per cent of cancer cases received one or more covid injections, says Croatian pathologist

Carcinoma is the most common type of cancer. It occurs when the DNA of a cell is damaged or altered, causing the cell to grow uncontrollably and become malignant.

https://expose-news.com/202...

5 0 Reply

GarySummers
a month ago

"MAINSTREAM DOCTOR CAVES In AND ADMITS SHE WAS WRONG ABOUT THE CLOT SHOT..."

5 0 Reply

Victor
a month ago

I think some people allude to the fact that the whole Pandemic medical discussion is not about two valid competing possibilities but about 1 being a total lie and the other pointing out the lie. The fact that we have to go to the Supreme Court to confirm that they are lying, really demonstrates the sad state of affairs the country is in. The medical boards are lying, the Pharmaceutical companies have been lying for a 100 years, the Medical complex (NIH/FDA/CDC) are all lying, Industrial companies like Monsanto are lying, the Gates and Soros foundations are lying and now our government is lying all the time. It takes them minutes or hours to structure and publicise their lies and it takes use months or years to take them to court to try to neutralise those lies. We need to find a better way.

5 0 Reply

WCarper
a month ago

Good! Too bad people have to sue the government to uphold right to free speech which is lawful.

5 0 Reply

Patricia Madsen
a month ago

I am proud John Stockton is joining this fight!
I live in Spokane, WA and from the beginning "tried" to gather information on what might help/hurt and what might be effective...things I could do proactively.
Let's say...difficult, unorganized and definitely suppressed describe the situation.
I kept hearing stories of local people...sick, being turned away because they weren't sick enough...only to end of days later dead or in the hospital.
I knew that the "virus" was not "normal" and you could have it...then towards the second week have a sudden downturn.
My daughter worked at Sacred Heart and called me at work to say she had tested positive.
I believe I actually gave it to her as I had contact with an individual who was positive earlier in the week and had been feeling unusually tired. We both wore masks at work(not that I believe they work).
I left work and also tested positive.
I have a heart condition and she has an auto-immune condition.
This was on a Thursday...by Saturday evening she was choking on flem and trying to talk to an on-call doctor. I begged him for Ivermectin, an antibiotic...anything...fearing I would have to drop her at the hospital and she would die. By this time I knew several deceased.
Nothing...you would have thought I was asking for poison. I kept pumping vitamins in her

see more

5 0 Reply

GarySummers
a month ago edited

"*Sharing Is Caring*"

"A summary of the 'Evidence' against the COVID vaccines"
Here's a quick summary of the key pieces of evidence that taken together show that the "COVID" vaccines are "unsafe" and that the medical community should not be trusted".
https://kirschsubstack.com/...

4 0 Reply

Brad O'Donnell
a month ago

Why are articles like this just after Covid so metaphorical and nebulous about the nefarious issue of "medical disinformation?" Its become taboo to name the elephant in the room... Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) and Ivermectin! Fauci disparaged these 40 year old drugs effective against Sars-CoV-2, so he could get EUA to market his patented mNRA Vax. Australia, India and Africa had much lower mortality because they'd taken HCQ for 40 years for malaria. Consequently the US with only 4% of world population had 20% of the Covid death. The fact is that American medical authority, NIH, AMA, CDC, FDA had never threatened doctors' licenses for prescribing any drug until they did so with HCQ during the Pandemic. Purely political! The NIH disparaged Ivermectin as 'horse wormer' when there had been effective human dosing for years. Retrospective studies at Yale, Harvard, Stanford and Oxford have determined that HCQ was effective against Covid when dosed PROPHYLACTICALLY! All hospital and medical authority omitted that life saving instruction when criticizing the drug. When ambiguous articles like this avoid directly identifying these effective therapeutics, they frustrate the public understanding of the medical tyranny we suffered.

3 0 Reply

BarbaraCharis
a month ago

There is a far higher court than many realize and there will be a day of reckoning. There is karma! Evil has its own reward and hopefully it will be 1000 times worse for those who have done so much harm to others. Who is behind this? Evil just doesn't happen. Its been slowly and insiduously occuring in our country for a long time. The largest Leftist Regime which has no faith in anything, except brute power and control has fostered the events occurring in America today. Our leaders must call a spade a spade...and stop taking money from a very deceitful country and stop turning a blind eye to what these monsters are doing here in America. I have wondered what is going on for a long time with all the insanity in America...My questions were answered, when I read a mind-opening book Blood Money by Peter Schweizer. If America is to survive, everyone needs to be aware of what is going on. An Evil Influence has put its tentacles into every aspect of American life.

2 0 Reply

Walt P.

W

Walt P

a month ago

The LEFT does not respect life. The LEFT does not respect freedom. The LEFT only respect power.
Most Democrats are Socialist/Communist. There plan is to impose their will on all others.
Just like the Communist do in China.
Not to mention the sexual perversion and seduction of children into sexual perversion. This is the LEFT.
All the Democrats do and support is against life and against God.

0 0 Reply

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